

# MANAGEMENT UNIT 7M

## *Delta Wildlands*

### MANAGEMENT INTENT

**General.** State land in this unit will be retained in public ownership and managed for public recreation, wildlife habitat, and mineral values.

Except for leasehold location requirements in Subunit 7M2, the unit will remain open to mineral entry.

**Fish and Wildlife.** Fish and wildlife habitat is a primary use in this management unit. The lands within this unit shall be managed to protect the integrity of the wildlife habitat, in particular those critical areas necessary for Dall sheep, including the 14 mineral licks within Subunit 7M2.

The mineral licks in Subunit 7M2 and other places not yet identified are heavily used primarily during the spring. The regular use of the licks suggests an important biological role, especially for sheep. Licks may also be an indicator of mineral values.

The management intent for Subunit 7M2 is to protect the mineral licks for wildlife use and allow exploration and development of mineral resources. The licks should be managed as a group and some licks should be available to wildlife at all times. Additional lick areas may be added to Subunit 7M2 in the future.

**Minerals.** Mining has been designated a primary use of Subunit 7M1. Mineral development should minimize impacts on wildlife resources and the visual impact on the recreation resources.

Subunit 7M2 (the nine sections surrounding each mineral lick) is subject to leasehold location to protect wildlife habitat values. Existing claims in the leasehold areas will not be converted to leasehold location or be required to obtain a lease from the state prior to production. However, exploration and mining on existing claims will be managed according to additional guidelines listed for this unit.

**Recreation.** The existing trail network shall remain available for traditional recreational access. Establishing new access trails for recreational use or to reach other state land and resources must be compatible with maintaining the overall recreation and habitat value of this unit.

**Settlement.** Settlement is designated a primary use in Subunit 7M3. No new offerings for private ownership are planned.

One area in Subunit 7M3 has been offered for private ownership. The acreage offered may have been less than the maximum amount shown. A portion of the developable land may be available for additional offerings.

Donnelly Subdivision 72 acres

**Other Resources.** Material sales may occur as long as they do not diminish fish and wildlife values and the visual impact on the recreation resources.

### MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines that apply to all state land are listed in Chapter 2. Some or all of those guidelines may apply to uses in this unit.

**Subsurface Resources.** Permits or operating plans for activities within the mineral licks and immediately adjacent sections must show how direct or indirect impacts on the mineral licks and wildlife trails will be avoided during the exploration and development phases.

The Department of Natural Resources will ensure, as much as possible, that a minimal number of licks are being explored at the same time.

The nine sections surrounding each lick will be under leasehold location. These concerns should be addressed in the permits or leases: 1) avoiding licks and trails leading to the licks; 2) mitigating negative impacts; 3) compensation for destruction or loss of a lick; and 4) type and location of access in the area

**LAND-USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY**  
**MANAGEMENT UNIT 7M: *Delta Wildlands***

Subunit	Primary Surface Uses	Secondary Surface Uses	Subsurface <sup>1</sup>	Prohibited <sup>2</sup> Surface Use	Comments
7M1	Minerals Public recreation Wildlife habitat		Open	Land disposals Remote cabins	
7M2	Wildlife habitat		Open through leasehold location	Land disposals Remote cabins	Mineral licks See text for guidelines
7M3	Settlement		Closed prior to sale		Past Project: Donnelly S

<sup>1</sup> Subsurface designations refer to locatable minerals. All areas are available for leasing for leasable minerals, except as noted for coal.

<sup>2</sup> Other uses such as material sales, land leases, or permits that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management-intent statement, the management guidelines of this unit, and the relevant management guidelines listed in Chapter 2.